

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The amendment filed on 10/06/2011 has been entered and fully considered.
2. Claims 1-10, 13-20, 23-30, 33-45, and 51-66 are pending. The base independent claims are 1, 15, 25, 35, and 38. All of the base independent claims have been amended.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed on 10/06/2011, with respect to amended claims 1-10, 13-20, 23-30, 33-45, and 51-66 have been fully considered and are persuasive in conjunction with the Examiner's Amendment shown below. The rejection of claims 1-10, 13-20, 23-30, 33-45, and 51-66 under USC 103(a) has been withdrawn.
4. The rejection of claims 15-20, 23-24, 42, 52, 57, and 62 under USC 112/2nd paragraph is now withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendments to these claims.
5. Claim objections to Claims 38-40 and 42-45 are now withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendments to these claims.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

6. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Samuel G. Campbell III (42381) on 2/6/2012.

The application has been amended as follows:

- a. Claim 15, Line 17, the phrase "in response to a detection of said failure" has been replaced by - - in response to said detection of said failure- -
- b. Claim 23, Line 5, the phrase "means for" has been removed.
- c. Claim 23, Line 6, the phrase "said failure" has been replaced by - - said failure of said first link - -
- d. Claim 24, Line 5, the phrase "means for" has been removed.
- e. Claim 24, Line 6, the phrase "said failure" has been replaced by - - said failure of said first link - -
- f. Claim 38, Line 28, the word "device" has been replaced with "element".
- g. Claim 52, Line 4, the phrase "detection of" has been replaced by the phrase - - said detection of - -
- h. Claim 54, Line 3, the phrase "detection of" has been replaced by the phrase - - said detection of - -
- i. Claim 65, Line 2, "said network element" has been replaced by - -said primary network element - -

Allowable Subject Matter

7. **Claims 1-10, 13-20, 23-30, 33-45, and 51-66** are allowable over the prior art since the prior art taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose, fairly

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suggest, or render obvious the claimed invention as argued by Applicant convincingly in the Remarks, on pages 18-20, filed on 10/6/2011.

8. **Claims 1-10, 13-20, 23-30, 33-45, and 51-66** are allowed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HABTE MERED whose telephone number is (571)272-6046. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 10:30AM to 7:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on 571 272 3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Habte Mered/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2474